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Message Text

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72
ORIGIN STR-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-14

RSC-01 SIG-04 FEA-02 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-03 H-03 INR-11 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 AID-20 CIEP-03 SS-20 TAR-02

TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 OMB-01 SWF-02 /251 R

DRAFTED BY STR/MPOMERANZ:JEH
APPROVED BY STR/MPOMERANZ
EB/OT/STA:RWINSTANLEY
COMMERCE:DNEWKIRK
DEFENSE:RBOOTON
TREASURY:JJOHNSON
LABOR:GMOODY
EB/OT/STA:JCRAWFORD
COMMERCE:FABBUHL
---------- 098342
R 291732Z AUG 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BERN
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, EEC, IND, OECD
SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT
REF: BERN 2946

1. LEVY IS WELL KNOWN AND RESPECTED IN WASHINGTON FOR HIS PARTICIPATION IN OECD TCWP GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT EXERCISE. EMBASSY SHOULD SEEK EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO CONVINCE HIM AND
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THE SWISS GOVERNMENT OF THE FOLLOWING US VIEWS.

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2. GREAT DEAL OF WORK HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE IN OECD BY MAJOR INDUSTRIAL NATIONS WHICH HAVE GREATEST INTEREST IN CODE. FOR THIS REASON DISCUSSION OF GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT SHOULD CONTINUE IN OECD FOR PRESENT, PARTICULARLY SINCE PROGRESS IS BEING MADE IN THAT FORUM. WE UNDERSTAND THAT IT MAY AT SOME POINT BECOME DESIRABLE, IF NOT NECESSARY, TO PHASE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT EXERCISE INTO MTN. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NOT YET MADE ANY DECISION ON THIS POINT. FYI: A GENERAL DECISION ON THE MANNER OF RELATING OECD WORK TO MTN, AND TREATMENT OF PROCUREMENT IN MTN COULD BECOME NECESSARY IN NEAR FUTURE IF GATT TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE, WHICH WILL BE ADOPTING DEFINITIVE NTB WORK PROGRAM FOR MTN IN OCTOBER, CONSIDERS IT NECESSARY TO INCLUDE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT IN THAT PROGRAM IN SOME FORM TO ASSURE THAT IT NOT EXCLUDED FROM MTN. END FYI.

3. WE ARE SURPRISED BY REFTEL REPORT IMPLICATION THAT LEVY

CONSIDERS FORWARD PROGRESS BY EC ON CODE CONTINGENT ON TRA ACTION HERE. WE HAD UNDERSTOOD THAT HE AGREED WITH US THAT EC WOULD NOT MOVE INTERNATIONALLY UNTIL IT HAD INTERNALLY RESOLVED LONG-STANDING IMPASSE ON DRAFT COMMUNITY PROCUREMENT DIRECTIVE. THIS MATTER HAS, OF COURSE, BEEN OVERTAKEN BY RECENT ACTIONS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WHERE THERE IS EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT PASSAGE OF TRA WILL BE ACHIEVED SOON.

4. WE WELCOME REPORT THAT SWISS WILL COOPERATE ON STATISTICAL QUESTIONNAIRE. WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO REITERATE TO LEVY OUR VIEW THAT DECISIONS ON SUCH QUESTIONS AS THRESHOLD AND EXCEPTIONS MAY NEVER BE ARRIVED AT BY SOME GOVERNMENTS UNTIL THE INFORMATION EXERCISE YIELDS NOT ONLY THAT DATA REQUESTED BY THE QUESTIONNAIRE BUT ALSO IN THE DETAIL ARGUED FOR BY THE US AT THE LAST TCWP MEETING.
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Executive Order: N/A
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